TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

March 8, 2004 LR 14

up in court challenges. How embarrassing it would be that a petition initiative would be upheld by the courts and ours wouldn't be based on a technicality. That would Also embarrassing would be the fact that the embarrassing. two-casino provision aces out several interest groups across the How embarrassing it would be if those petition initiatives make it to the ballot and let's just say they're adopted and ours isn't. Because I would speculate there will be more unified opposition against the two-casino issue, because the horsemen are aced out, the keno operators are aced out, basically everyone, but Vegas, who has the resources to come together and put a wonderful-looking proposal before the Legislature. And if you think you're lobbied hard now on this issue, just wait. Because already we have to visit the issue again next year should this make it to the ballot and get adopted. Just imagine. Let's take a little different tack here. Say that the Legislature votes their convictions, which I believe is no casinos. I believe that a majority of the members here, from my discussions, do not want casinos, but they feel that some outside pressures, from whatever state they originate, are saying we should vote on it, that it should be put on the ballot. But just imagine for a moment if we start disregarding the procedure here, on germaneness especially. Now I conceded the fact that the second part, the second amendment in Senator Schimek's amendment, the second part of the division, germane. I will offer no challenge on the germaneness, even though it would occupy some time. That's not what I'm going to do on the germaneness issue. But we need to respect this And I'm still getting reasons why the Legislature should not endorse casino gambling, and I won't mention those just yet. Now I hope that we can get to the discussion of the third part of this amendment because it's...I'm a little foggy as to how it works and I hope that you'll look at that. I'm not sure if...what Senator Schimek's plan is here to call for cloture, but she may be letting me delay the process to wait for the votes to arrive tomorrow, . . .

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR SMITH: ... because I believe that the attendance today is an issue relating to the cloture motion and the votes that